

# Confederate Memorial Institute Throws Open Its Doors This Week



Mrs. Lullie Hanley Walcott  
Sponsor, Miss Div.



Mrs. John L. Woodbury  
CHAPERON KY



Miss Henrietta White  
Sponsor Ky



Miss Eleanor Carroll  
Chilton  
Sponsor W Va



Mrs. Charles Wither's Sumter  
Sponsor in Chief for Va Div



Miss Frances B. Steel  
Maid Ky Div



Miss Lora Crump  
MAID Va Div



Mrs. J. Turner Hamlin  
CHAPERON Va Div



Mrs. George L. Christian  
MAID Va Div



Miss Lettie Page Woods  
Maid Va Div



Miss Alice Wilks Preston  
Maid Md Div



Mrs. Mary Dowling Bond  
Guest Ky Div



Miss Agnes T. Turman  
Sponsor Md Div

**SEAL OF CONFEDERACY**  
**WILL BE ON EXHIBIT**

During Reunion This Week Precious Relic, Never Shown Before, Can Be Seen.

OWNED BY RICHMOND MEN

Made in London by Order of Confederate Congress—Carried From Richmond After Evacuation in Woman's Bustle.

At the Confederate Reunion, which opens tomorrow, there will be on exhibition a relic that gives the reunion of 1915 a distinction that no previous reunion has enjoyed.

For the first time at a Confederate Reunion, and for the first time on any sort of occasion, there will be shown the great seal of the Confederate States of America, which disappeared in a mysterious way when Richmond was evacuated, and whose whereabouts was a mystery until the Richmond men ascertained in whose possession it was secured by the payment of a sum of money and brought it to Richmond.

Those active in restoring the great seal were J. P. Harrison, R. R. Williams, H. White and Thomas P. Bryan. They have decided to place the Great Seal on exhibition in the Confederate Museum, corner of Twelfth and Clay Streets, during the three days of the reunion.

**OF MASSIVE SILVER AND IVORY CONSTRUCTION**

The seal is of massive silver, several pounds of the precious metal having been used in its construction. The handle is of ivory and the seal itself is made in substantial proportion as there seems to have been no disposition on the part of those in authority to stint the expenditure necessary to give the young confederacy a seal in keeping with the idea that the new government was to be an enduring one. The seal was cut in silver because that metal was less liable to rust than steel. The device is a representation of the engravings of the seal in the Capitol Square of Richmond. Surrounding the seal is a wreath composed of the principal agricultural products of the South at the time—cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat and rice. Around the margin are the words, "The Confederate States of America, twenty-second February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two" with the motto, "Deo Vincitur." The seal was made by J. S. Wynn, 287 Regent Street, London, whose name and address appear on it as the engraver, embedded in the silver, there being also a hieroglyphic mark of four emblems with the initials "J. S. W." Enclosing the seal is a strong leather box, which in turn rests in a wooden box. The precious relic is kept in a fireproof vault in the Jefferson Hotel. Its permanent resting place has not yet been decided upon, but it probably will be either the Confederate Museum or the Battle Abbey.

**STORY OF MANUFACTURE RECALLS HISTORIC PERIOD**

The story of the making of the seal is intensely interesting, recalling as it does the historic period of the early days of the Confederacy. Records in the library of Congress give the account of how the device came into existence, and follow it from the time of its manufacture to the time that it was sold to the Richmond men, in whose possession it now is. These records say that a joint resolution establishing the seal and indicating what should appear on it was adopted by the Congress of the Confederate States of America on April 30, 1862. The records also show that on May 20, 1862, Judah P. Benjamin, Secretary of State of the Confederacy, sent a letter to James Mason, envoy of the Confederate government in London, informing him of the action taken by the Confederate Congress, giving particulars as to how the seal should be made, and directing that he have the work done in England. The London firm to which the order was given was evidently crowded with orders or dilatory about undertaking the work, or there was delay somewhere else, for it was February 18, 1864, before Mr. Mason was able to write his government and report that the seal was being made. On April 12, 1864, Mr. Mason reported that he had instructed Mr. Wynn to pack the seal, press and other appliances belonging to the outfit and put them in charge of Henry Hotze, confidential agent in London of the Confederate government. On July 6, 1864, Mr. Mason wrote that he was sending the seal to America by Lieutenant Chapman, of the Confederate Navy. The seal was brought by Lieutenant Chapman from Liverpool to Halifax on the Cunard liner Africa, and from Halifax to the Bermudas on the

steamship Alpha. Just what port Lieutenant Chapman entered in reaching this country is not made clear by the records, but it is known that in running the blockade in order to get into a Southern port he was constantly prepared to throw the seal overboard. Lieutenant Chapman arrived in Richmond in September, 1864, and turned the seal over to the Secretary of State.

**SEAL IN SELFIDGE'S POSSESSION MANY YEARS**

During the greater part of the time that has elapsed since the separate American sovereignty ended its brief, though glorious career, the seal has been in the possession of Rear Admiral Thomas A. Selfridge, retired, of the United States Navy, and kept by him in his home in Washington. He obtained it from Colonel John T. Pickett, who in turn came into possession of the relic at the hands of William J. Bromwell, who had been an employee in the Department of State of the Confederacy.

When Richmond was evacuated those records of the Confederate government which Secretary of State Judah P. Benjamin had not destroyed, together with the great seal, were taken in charge by Bromwell. Mrs. Bromwell carried the seal from Richmond concealed in the bustle of her dress, the bustle having

been at that time an article of feminine adornment. Later she brought it to Washington. Between the time the seal and the collection of papers were taken from Richmond and the time they were carried to Washington, they had been kept for a time in Danville, and also for a time in Charlotte, N. C. In Washington, Colonel John T. Pickett, who had been a Confederate officer, and at the close of the war had gone to Washington to practice law, learned of the collection of papers in the hands of Bromwell and undertook to dispose of them for a part of the proceeds. He

Miss Martha Handley  
Sponsor Forrest Cavalry

Miss Ruth Flower  
MAID N.C. Div.

Miss E. Wray Wharton  
Maid W Va

Miss Madge Looney  
Matron Forrest's Cavalry

Miss Hilary Melton  
MAID Ky Div

Miss Selma Couch  
MAID of Honor

Miss Mammie Brown  
Maid for Forrest's Cavalry

Miss Lettie Page Woods  
Maid Va Div

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Maid Va Div

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Maid Va Div

Chapter, Seawance, \$10; C. M. Goodlett Chapter, Clarksville, \$5; total, \$15.35. West Virginia—Hedgesville Chapter, \$1.50. Interest, \$319.64. Total collections since last report, \$517.99. Total in hands of treasurer at last report, \$21,111.40. Total collections to date, \$21,952.39. Less expense, \$51.53. Total in hands of treasurer to date, \$21,899.86.

**Confederate Money Wanted.**

In response to the call for Confederate currency with which to "pay off" Confederate veterans at the Richmond Reunion, Miss Susie Gentry, of Franklin, Tenn., has sent to Paymaster-General J. M. Williams, of Memphis, a roll of five and ten-dollar bills amounting to \$1,600, which was a part of the salary of her father, Dr. Watson Meredith Gentry, surgeon in chief of Confederate hospitals, Montgomery, Ala., 1863 to 1865. In acknowledgment of this generous contribution, General Williams writes: "I thank you most sincerely and appreciate the noble, patriotic and loving sentiment which prompted you and your father to make this donation. It is indeed valuable, and you and your father's names will be placed on the roll of honor and publicly announced at the Richmond Reunion. This donation and the interesting history of the gift is far ahead of any that I have so far received."

**SHILOH MONUMENT**

Report of Mrs. Roy W. McKinnier, Treasurer, from February 12 to March 18, 1915.

Arkansas—W. H. and E. A. Ramsey Chapter, Argenta, \$5; Mary Graham Chapter, C. of C. Camden, \$2; total, \$7. California—Stonewall Jackson Chapter No. 476, \$1; General Joseph Wheeler Chapter No. 1357, \$3; General John R. Gordon Chapter No. 740, \$2; General Tyne H. Bell Chapter No. 739, \$5; Jefferson Davis Chapter No. 540, \$25; General J. E. B. Stuart Chapter No. 815, \$2; General Sterling Price Chapter No. 1243, \$5; total, \$41. District of Columbia—Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter, \$5. Maryland—Baltimore Chapter No. 8, \$50. Mississippi—Hon. John Sharp Williams (personal), \$50. Tennessee—Forrest Chapter, Brownsville, \$5; Mrs. D. Z. Bond (personal), Nashville, \$2; George B. Maney Auxiliary, Nashville, \$5; Francis M. Walker Chapter, St. Elmo, \$5; C. M. Goodlett Chapter, Clarksville, \$2.50; Old Hickory Chapter, Dickson, \$5; Kirby Smith Chapter, \$5.

Miss Lettie Page Woods  
Maid Va Div

## Sons of Veterans Name Sponsors

Well-Known Women to Take Part in Social Features of Reunion Week.

The following have been named as sponsors for the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the Richmond reunion this week:

Sponsor-in-Chief, Miss Rubenette Lee, Irvington, Va.; maid-of-honor, Miss Marton Cunningham, Knoxville, Tenn.; maid-of-honor, Miss Margaret Evans, Cheraw, S. C.; maid-of-honor, Miss Mary E. Butler, Richmond, Va.; chaperon, Miss Daisy McL. Stevens, Brandon, Miss.; matron-of-honor, Mrs. Walter D. Lamar, Macon, Ga.

Army Northern Virginia Department. Sponsor, Miss Marcia Rodman Myers, Washington, D. C.; maid-of-honor, Miss Lullie Drew Barham, Newsoms, Va.; maid-of-honor, Miss Sallie May Tillman, Trenton, S. C.; chaperon, Mrs. De Los Thomas, Roanoke, Va.

Army Tennessee Department. Sponsor, Miss Ruby S. Toombs, Memphis, Tenn.; maid-of-honor, Miss Kathleen Baldwin, Whiteville, N. S.; maid-of-honor, Miss Caroline Harris, Ocala, Fla.; chaperon, Miss Laura J. Sharp, Birmingham, Ala.; matron, Mrs. Genevieve Acee Carhart, New York, N. Y.

Army Trans. Mississippi Department. Sponsor, Miss Rosalie Philpot, Pine Bluff, Ark.; maid-of-honor, Miss Evelyn Stewart, St. Louis, Mo.; maid-of-honor, Miss Eddie King, Pine Bluff, Ark.; chaperon, Mrs. William David Ferguson, Pine Bluff, Ark.; matron-of-honor, Mrs. G. D. Anderson, Wichita Falls, Tex.

Alabama Division. Sponsor, Miss Lucille Schwarz, Mobile.

Colorado Division. Sponsors, Miss Mammie Brown, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; maid-of-honor, Miss Annie S. Tardy, Birmingham, Ala.; maid-of-honor, Miss Louise Stacy, Pulaski, Tenn.; maid-of-honor, Miss Emma Brady, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; chaperon, Mrs. W. A. Rose, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Florida Division. Sponsor, Miss Alice Bullock, Ocala, Fla.; maid-of-honor, Miss Onie Chazel, Ocala, Fla.; maid-of-honor, Miss Willie Louise Lowry, Tampa, chaperon, Mrs. C. Seton Fleming, Jacksonville, Fla.; matron-of-honor, Mrs. Annie Waldo, Van Dusen, Ocala.

Louisiana Division—Sponsor, Miss Ines Mangham, Monroe; chaperon, Mrs. D. C. Powell, Lake Charles; matron of honor, Mrs. W. M. Barrow, Baton Rouge.

Mississippi Division—Sponsor, Miss Lucy Enoch, Jackson; maids of honor, Miss Danella Wells, Vicksburg; Miss Dorothy Saunders, Jackson; matron of honor, Mrs. Hunter L. Scales, Starkeville.

Missouri Division—Sponsor, Miss Anita Sanders, St. Louis; maids of honor, Miss Dorothy W. Menefee, Kansas City; Miss Virginia Chew, St. Louis; chaperon, Mrs. Annie Morgan, St. Louis.

North Carolina Division—Sponsor, Miss Lucie Beers, Powell, Vineland; chaperon, Mrs. Joseph A. Brown, Chadbury.

Pacific Division—Sponsor, Miss Minnie Ethel Lombard, Memphis, Tenn.; maid of honor, Miss Eunice Semmes, Montgomery, Ala.; matron of honor, Mrs. C. B. Bryan, Memphis, Tenn.

South Carolina Division—Sponsor, Miss Vina Norwood Patrick, Anderson; maid of honor, Miss Virginia Saunders, Statesburg; matron of honor, Mrs. Harriet B. Cherrhardt, Chester.

Southwest Division—Sponsor, Miss Clayton, Muskogee, Okla.

Tennessee Division—Sponsor, Miss Willie Moon, Chattanooga, Tenn.; maid of honor, Miss Alice M. Lake, Memphis, Tenn.; chaperon, Mrs. E. B. Douglass, Memphis, Tenn.

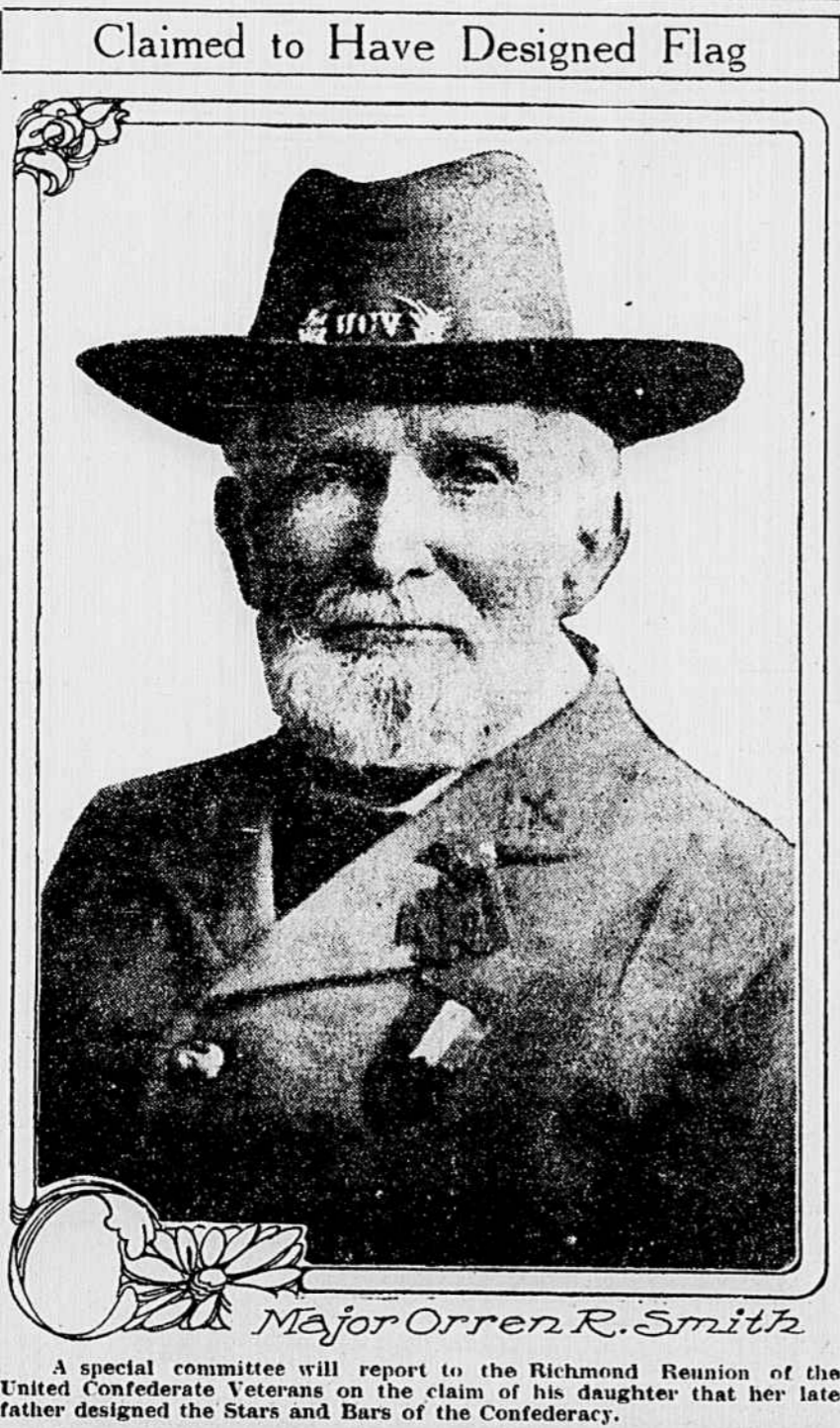
Texas Division—Sponsor, Miss Lillian McGregg, maids of honor, Miss Agnes Reed, Miss Bessie Kell, Miss Bertha Mae Kemp.

Virginia Division—Sponsor, Miss Jane Cooke, Roanoke; maids of honor, Miss Ida G. Burruss, Fredericksburg; Miss Margaret P. Temple, Danville; matron of honor, Mrs. Bird Rogers Lipscomb, Richmond.

West Virginia Division—Sponsor, Miss Eleanor Carroll Chilton, Charleston; maid of honor, Miss Anna Jackson, Charleston; chaperon, Mrs. William E. Chilton.

G. W. Rumble, 1511 Fairview Street, Berkeley, Cal., wishes to know something of Major J. W. Weston, who was sent to Europe to represent the Confederacy in 1861 or 1862. It is known that he passed the blockade at Savannah.

**Claimed to Have Designed Flag**



Major Orren R. Smith

A special committee will report to the Richmond Reunion of the United Confederate Veterans on the claim of his daughter that her late father designed the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy.

